

**Fremont County
Weed Advisory Board**

March 18, 2026
**Fremont County Garden Park Bldg.
Garden Park Conference Room**
*201 N. 6th Street
Canon City, CO 81212*

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Rick Romano

Board Members Present (in Person):

Rick Romano, Chairman	12/31/2027
Tony Telck	12/31/2026
Tom Grette	12/31/2026
Bryan Welding	12/31/2027
Dean Brady	12/31/2028
Paul Telck	Life

Board Members Absent:

Ed Norden	12/31/2027
Paul Garrett	12/31/2028
John Coyle	12/31/2027
Ralph Kunselman	12/31/2026
Roy Roper	Life
Vacant	12/31/2026 (Donna's position)

Others Present (in Person):

Brittany Pierce, Fremont County Weed Management Director
Jesse Young, City of Canon City
Daniel Morse, Fremont Conservation District
Devin Everhart, Canon City Recreation District
Dwayne McFall, Fremont County Commissioner
Tony Carochi, Fremont County Administrator
Shawn Sutton, Fremont County Finance Director
Kathy Lutz, Recording Secretary

Motion to approve agenda by Dean Brady and 2nd by Tony Telck

Minutes:

The minutes from the January 21, 2026 meeting were distributed at this meeting and via email.
Correct the spelling of pre-emergents on 3rd page
Motion to approve minutes by Tony Telck and 2nd by Dean Brady

Chairman's Report:

Rick reported that the rediscovery of Yellow Starthistle in Pueblo County (at same property as previously treated) was brought up at the Upper Ark meeting

Given the effort that was put in to eradicating it 10 years ago and the fact that it is an A List weed, it is important to stay on top of this.

Agency Reports:

- **Commissioner's Comments**

Dwayne McFall stated that Fremont County is under Stage 1 Fire Restrictions
Everyone knows that it is dry and warm – stay safe

Tony Carochi stated that the leak has been identified at the water main break in Walsenburg and Mykel Kroll, Fremont County Emergency Manager is taking a 550-gallon water truck down there to assist

Building projects on East Main for Weed Department, Emergency Management, Search and Rescue are continuing – should have a foundation poured by next week

- **BLM**

Not present

Brittany mentioned that they may have a few new projects this year
Working on an agreement for some properties in Chaffe County

- **CSU Extension/NRCS Small Acreage**

Not present

- **NRCS**

Daniel Morse stating they are working on finalizing contracts

- **Fremont Conservation District**

Noxious Weed Fund Grant for 2026 was awarded and decreased by 25% = cut from \$120k and cut down to \$90k

No-Till-Drill is ready to go

Started meeting with Forest Service to discuss forest health and fire mitigation – may impact this Weed Advisory group in the future

\$1000 College scholarship – application deadline is May 1st

<https://www.fremontcd.org/betty-chess-college-scholarship>

80th Annual Landowners Banquet will be on Saturday, April 11th

At the Royal Gorge VFW Post 4061

<https://www.fremontcd.org/80th-annual-landowners-banquet>

- **City of Cañon City**

Jessie Young stated that they are spraying
25% of trails and open spaces have been sprayed

Lack of moisture has kept a lot of the noxious weed species at bay so far this year
No mention as of yet about cutbacks on watering in the parks – water restrictions

- **City of Florence**

Not present

- **Canon City Metropolitan Area Rec District**

Devin Everhart states that they are trying to spray between the winds
Trailhead done from Dawson Ranch to Eco Park and sprayed at Eco Park

No update on Fire District doing controlled burns
They completed one burn at the retention pond at Pathfinder Park

Dean Brady mentioned he serves on the Canon City Water Board and that water restriction regulations have changed – about 3 pages long now – should be coming out soon

Weed Director's Report:

Discussion with BLM about allocating funding and projects
Meeting next week with City of Canon City and US Forestry
Agreement with Chaffee County is in the works

Equipment is updated and ready to go for the upcoming season

Will probably be hiring two seasonals this year

Weed Board Member and Guest Roundtable:

Bryan Welding – commend everybody for a fantastic weed seminar

Old Business:

Priorities and Procedures Manual updates are completed and were approved at 3-10-24 BOCC Meeting

New Business:

Official Recognition of Paul Telck as a Life Member to the Fremont County Weed Advisory Board

Brittany completed a write up about Paul Telck to commemorate his service on the Weed Advisory Board which Rick Romano read to the group

Paul Telck humbly talked about the history of Weed Management in Fremont County

Adjournment / Next Meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

The next meeting is set for Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. in the Garden Park Conference Room.